



*'Aiming High
Together'*

Calow Church of England (V.C.) Primary School

Home Learning Policy

Aims

We consider home learning an essential part of school learning. It is an important element in the partnership between school and the family to help foster the optimum development of the child.

We give home learning to children for one or more of the following reasons:

1. develop the home/school partnership in the management of pupil's learning and keeping parents informed about work pupils are doing.
2. practice skills or knowledge (tables, spellings, reading) that require more time than is available in school encouraging pupils to develop skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively on their own.
3. consolidating and reinforcing the skills and understanding developed at school (particularly literacy and mathematics)
4. consolidate and extend school learning, e.g. through additional reading
5. ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
6. encourage a positive attitude to learning
7. help prepare the children for transition from one key stage to another

Equal Opportunities

Home learning can be a tool to enable greater access to a broad and balanced curriculum for all children. This is achieved by ensuring that pupils regardless of ability, or to a lesser extent attendance, can develop skills and knowledge that enable access to the whole curriculum.

Any child with Special Needs follows our Special Needs Procedures. Children with Individual Education Plans (IEPS) are at stage 2 of the Procedures. They are discussed termly with parents.

Role of the Headteacher and Governors

To lead the Management Team in determining the Home Learning Policy, monitoring and evaluating its effectiveness through sampling home learning assignments across the school and seeking the views of parents/guardians, staff and children.

Role of Parents/Guardians

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to support their child's home learning through:

- providing a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do their home learning
- making it clear to the child that they value home learning
- encouraging and praising their child when home learning is completed
- sitting with their child and talking about the activities
- reading with their child each night

Role of the Class teacher

Class teachers will:

- ensure home learning is well integrated into their everyday work and planning
- ensure the school policy is put into practice
- ensure that tasks are carefully planned and structured to support progression and learning
- have high expectations of children completing their home learning
- provide children with prompt, clear feedback on their work, always marking the home learning and sending it home
- ensure home learning activities match the needs of the children

Time and Weight in the curriculum

1 hour per week:

At Key Stage 1 home learning consists of reading or learning words, spelling, number work or perhaps collecting something to bring to school for a topic or some other simple activities.

1.5 hours per week:

In the lower juniors, (Years 3 & 4) the children are particularly encouraged to bring books from home relating to topics being studied, read their school reading books, learn spellings each week, addition and multiplication tables and perhaps word and number games.

2 – 2.5 hours per week:

In the upper juniors, (Years 5 & 6) we still encourage reading, often other than school books, also spelling and multiplication tables. We also set written work, such as finding out information, English and mathematical activities, with specific times for handing in. In this way we hope to prepare our older children for secondary expectations.

Parent/Teacher meetings

At the beginning of each academic year, during September each teacher hosts a parent meeting straight after school to discuss 'how to help their child at home' and explain any queries arising. In addition, these meetings will communicate staff commitment to being approachable, supportive, flexible and reassuring. It is important to note that parent help with home learning is much appreciated, welcomed and beneficial to the child; however home learning is the responsibility of the pupil not the parent, aiming to develop pupils' personal responsibility, time management skills and independent study skills for employment later in life.

Agreed Practice

Home Learning in Foundation Stage 1

In nursery home learning includes:

Differentiated termly target booklets. These are sent home at the start of each term explaining the key aspects of that terms learning. It also includes several suggestions for activities that could be used to develop these skills at home.

Each term parents/grandparents are invited to join us for an activity session. These are planned around the seven areas of learning and leaflets are given to parents explaining ways they can support their child at home in each of the areas of learning.

Daily home learning activities are also displayed on our "Home links" board. This explains what we are learning on a particular day and offers a suggested home activity to encourage further learning and talk.

Occasionally other tasks are sent home, asking children to bring in a photograph or object etc.

Reception – Mr. Cohen

Reception Class will receive home learning on Fridays to be returned on Wednesday. Home Learning will consist of one Literacy and one Mathematics based task plus additional topic tasks.

Class One – Miss Franklin

Friday Home learning for Literacy/Mathematics or topic. To be handed in the following Wednesday
Daily home reading (children can change books as and when necessary).

Children may also be asked to carry out Projects linked with topics from time to time.

Class Two – Mrs. McDonald

Friday Literacy and Mathematics Home Learning (to be returned each Thursday)
Daily home reading (children can change books as and when necessary)

Children may also be asked to carry out Projects linked with topics from time to time.

Class Three – Miss. Savage

Monday Learning tables for a test on Friday
Thursday Spellings for a test on the following Thursday
Friday Literacy and Mathematics to be handed in on Wednesday
Daily home reading (children can change books as and when necessary).

Topic work to be completed in learning logs will also be given out termly.

Class Four – Miss. Hadfield

Monday Learning Multiplication tables for a test the following Monday
Wednesday Literacy and Mathematics tasks (to be returned each Monday)
Friday Spellings for a test the following Friday
Daily home reading (children can change books as and when necessary).

Topic work to be completed in learning logs will also be given out termly.

Class Five – Mrs. Hill

Monday Spelling (spelling sheet to be handed in Friday morning)
Wednesday Literacy and Mathematics to be handed in on the following Monday
Thursday Learning tables for a test for the following Thursday

Daily home reading (children can change books as and when necessary).

Children may also be asked to carry out research or complete a short task on a History, Geography, R.E., Art or Design and Technology topic in Home learning logs twice a term but plenty of time will always be given for this.

Class Six – Mrs. Oldale

Monday	Spellings to be practised for the following week
Wednesday	Mental arithmetic / times tables to be practised for the following week
Friday	Mathematics and Literacy to be handed in the following Wednesday Daily home reading (children can change books as and when necessary).

Children may also be asked to carry out research or complete a short task on a History, Geography, R.E., Art or Design and Technology topic in Home learning logs 2 or 3 times a term but plenty of time will always be given for this.

General

1. Home learning is not set as a punishment for misbehaviour in school. Misbehaviour is dealt with following the School's Behaviour and Discipline Policy.
2. Parents will be informed if home learning is not completed satisfactorily on several occasions.
3. Tests based on spelling, multiplication and addition facts and learning targets will be used to help assess pupil progression.
4. Parents will be informed wherever possible of techniques for helping their children at home and topics and skills covered each term, via target information and parents meetings.

Resources

Reading books, reading record books and home learning diaries are often taken home and are needed to resource this policy. Other school books may be taken under the direction of the teacher but will incur no additional expenditure.

School may request parents to replace any school books or equipment lost or damaged whilst doing home learning.

Review: July 2014